SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 1926.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.	
CURRENT NOTES:	
Autumn Council Dinner	157
Arrangements Committee, 1926-27	157
Health Lectures by Insurance Practitioners	157
Address by Sir Thomas Horder	157
SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF INSURANCE ACTS COMMITTEE, 1925-26	158
ASSOCIATION NOTICES	159
NAVAL AND MILITARY APPOINTMENTS	159
VACANCIES	160
DIARY OF SOCIETIES AND LECTURES	160
POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES	160
ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE AND DIARY	160
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS	160

British Medical Association.

CURRENT NOTES.

Autumn Council Dinner.

The Autumn Dinner of the Council of the British Medical Association will be held this year in the Great Hall of the Association's House, Tavistock Square, London, on Wednesday, October 13th, at 7 for 7.30 p.m. This dinner, which will be followed by a dance, is not confined to members of Council, but is open to other members of the Association and their guests. Tickets, 21s. each, exclusive of wine, may be obtained from the Financial Secretary, British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, and early application is desirable. Already acceptances have been received from the Home Secretary and other important political personages. The management of the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue, is placing bedroom accommodation at the disposal of those attending the dinner. Preferential treatment will be accorded to them at the hotel, and a reduced price of 14s. for bed and breakfast will be charged.

Arrangements Committee, 1926-27.

The personnel of the Arrangements Committee, which will advise the Council as to the appointment of Officers of Sections and Readers of Addresses at the Annual Meeting to be held at Edinburgh in July, 1927, consists (in addition to the four Officers of the Association) of the following:

Professor Edwin Bramwell, Edinburgh.
Professor W. E. Dixon, Cambridge.
Professor G. E. Gask, London.
Sir Thomas Horder, London.
Professor R. W. Johnstone, Edinburgh.
Mr. Alexander Miles, Edinburgh.
Sir Robert Philip, Edinburgh.
Professor G. M. Robertson, Edinburgh.
Sir Humphry Rolleston, Cambridge.
Dr. G. I. Strachan, Cardiff.
Mr. J. W. Struthers, Edinburgh.
Mr. A. M. Webber, Nottingham.

The Honorary Secretary of the Edinburgh Annual Meeting (Dr. A. Fergus Hewat) or his deputy (Mr. Frank E. Jardine) will be invited to attend the meetings of the Committee.

Health Lectures by Insurance Practitioners.

The Birmingham Insurance Committee has now issued a Report on the Health Lectures delivered under its auspices by insurance practitioners to their own patients during the spring of 1925 and the winter of 1925-26. The report has a "Foreword" by Sir John Robertson, the medical officer of health for the city, in appreciation of the scheme and of the report. In the whole series there were 49 lectures delivered by 38 practitioners, each speaking only to insured persons on his own list. The total attendances were 13,875 out of 87,100 invitations issued—that is, about 16 per cent. The attendances at individual lectures varied from 65 to 500, and the percentages from 7 to 36. The general subject of each lecture was "How to keep well." The scheme was well thought out, and the conditions and methods under which the lectures were given, and in accordance with which the invitations were issued, are fully described in the report. With a very few exceptions the lectures appear to have been highly successful, and, according to the opinions quoted, of real value both to the insured persons present and to the lecturers.

At the Conference of Honorary Secretaries held at Nottingham there was an interesting discussion on this subject (Supplement, August 7th last, pp. 106-7). Some doubts were then expressed as to the propriety and usefulness of such a scheme, and it is clear that any arrangements for similar lectures in other areas must be made with every care to avoid possible dangers. Those who have been most intimately acquainted with the practical working in Birmingham seem to be convinced that theoretical dangers need not mature, and that this is a form of propaganda which may well be encouraged. The fact that other courses of public health lectures may be organized by health authorities for the general public does not clash with or detract from the usefulness of health talks given by doctors to their own patients in accordance with a carefully regulated scheme accepted by the profession. Such education in health is accepted as one of the public duties of the profession, and, following on a resolution of the Representative Body, the Public Health Committee of the Association has now appointed a special subcommittee to report on how Branches and Divisions, as voluntary bodies, can best make a contribution towards public education in health on the lines of Sir George Newman's recent memorandum.

Address by Sir Thomas Horder.

Those who read the "Association Notices" have seen in the Supplement that the St. Pancras Division intends to hold its first meeting of the session at the British Medical Association House on Tuesday, October 12th, and that Sir Thomas Horder will deliver an address on "The aims and methods of health education," the chair to be taken by Sir Humphry Rolleston. As a good deal of confused publicity has been given to this matter in the lay press it may be as well to state that the lecture is arranged in the ordinary course of the session's work by the Division; that Sir Thomas Horder is stating his own views on the very interesting question he has chosen for his title, and that his address is in no way an ex cathedra statement as to the policy of the Association. The St. Pancras Division will be glad to see any member of the profession at the meeting, but it is not open to the lay public or to the press. The chair will be taken at 9 p.m.

VACANCIES.

BRISTOL HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.—Resident Medical Officer. Salary £100 per annum.

CARDIFF CITY MENTAL HOSPITAL, Whitchurch.—Senior (First) Assistant Medical Officer (male, unmarried). Salary £550 per annum, rising to £600.

CARDIFF ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Ophthalmic House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £50 per annum.

CROYDON GENERAL HOSPITAL.—Part-time Pathologist and Bacteriologist.

DOMINICA, BRITISH WEST INDIES.—Medical Officer of Health. Salary £1,000 per annum.

DONCASTER ROYAL INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.—Third House-Surgeon (male). Salary at the rate of £150 per annum.

DUBLIN: ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.—Assistant Surgeon to the Out-patient Department.

GROSVENOR HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, Vincent Square, S.W.1.—Honorary Registrar.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST, Brompton, S.W.3.—Physician.

HOSPITAL FOR EPILEPSY AND PARALYSIS, Maida Vale, W.9.—(1) Resident Medical Officer. (2) House-Physician. Salary at the rate of £150 and £100 per annum respectively.

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1.—(1) House-Surgeon. (2) House-Physician and Assistant Casualty Officer. The appointments are for six months. Salary £50.

ILKESTON BOROUGH.—Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer. Salary £800 per annum.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.—Two Dental Surgeons. Salary at the rate of £600 per annum.

LONDON HOSPITAL, E.1.—Assistant Dental Anaesthetist. Honorarium £25 per annum.

MILLER GENERAL HOSPITAL, Greenwich Road, S.E.10.—House-Physician (male, unmarried). Salary £125 per annum.

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS.—House-Physician at the Highbury Group of Hospitals, Birmingham. Salary £350 per annum.

NORWICH CITY.—Temporary Assistant School Medical Officer. Salary £11 11s. per week.

PADDINGTON GREEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, W.2.—(1) House-Physician. (2) House-Surgeon. Salary at the rate of £150 per annum each.

PRINCE OF WALES'S GENERAL HOSPITAL, Tottenham, N.15.—(1) House-Surgeon. (2) Special House-Surgeon. (3) House-Physician. (4) Junior House-Surgeon. (5) Junior House-Physician. Salary for (1), (2), and (3) £120 per annum each, for (4) and (5) £90 per annum each.

QUEEN'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, Hackney Road, E.2.—Physician-in-charge of the Skin Department.

ROYAL NATIONAL ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL, 234, Great Portland Street, W.1.—Surgical Registrars. Honorarium £100 per annum.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, King William Street, W.C.2.—(1) House-Surgeon. (2) Assistant House-Surgeon.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, Lewisham, S.E.13.—Resident Male Casualty Officer. Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

SOUTH LONDON HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN, South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.4.—Clinical Assistant (woman). Honorarium £1 1s. per attendance.

SWANSEA HOSPITAL.—House-Physician (male, unmarried). Salary £150 per annum.

WHITEHAVEN AND WEST CUMBERLAND HOSPITAL.—Junior House-Surgeon (male). Salary at the rate of £100 per annum.

This list of vacancies is compiled from our advertisement columns, where full particulars will be found. To ensure notice in this column advertisements must be received not later than the first post on Tuesday morning.

APPOINTMENTS.

BENNETT, Charles, M.B., Ch.B., Consulting Surgeon to the Clackmannan County Hospital, Alloa.

CUNNINGHAM, R. G., M.B., Ch.B.Ed., Medical Referee under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1925, for the Districts of the Consett, Durham, Seaham Harbour, and Sunderland County Courts (Circuit No. 2), vice R. G. Bell, M.D.Glas., F.R.C.S.Ed. (deceased).

OWEN, D. Rhydwyn, M.B., B.Ch., Assistant Medical Officer, Glamorgan County Mental Hospital (Bridgend).

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S MATERNITY HOSPITAL, Marylebone Road, N.W.1.—*Senior Resident Medical Officer:* J. K. Reid, M.B., Ch.B. *Assistant Resident Medical Officer:* A. V. Clemmey, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. *District Resident Medical Officer:* L. J. Prosser, M.B., Ch.B.

CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS.—W. G. Thompson, M.D.Ed., F.R.C.S.Ed., for the Sunderland District, co. Durham; R. C. Smith, M.B., Ch.B.Glas., for the Twickenham District, Middlesex; A. Cleland, M.B., Ch.B.Ed., for the Musselburgh District, Edinburgh; J. W. Chadwick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., for the Bollington District, co. Chester; J. O. Summerhayes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., for the Newhaven District, co. Sussex.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

POST-GRADUATE HOSTEL, Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, W.C.1.—Mon., 9 p.m., H Ion Concentration in Health and Disease. Thurs., 9 p.m., Acclimatization of the White Man in the Tropics.

GLASGOW POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.—At Royal Infirmary: Mon., Wed., and Fri., 9.15 a.m., Anaesthetics. At Western Infirmary: Tues. and Fri., 9 a.m., Diseases of the Throat and Nose. Tues. and Thurs., 5.30 p.m., and Wed. and Fri., 11 a.m., Venereal Diseases. At Royal Hospital for Sick Children: Daily (except Sat.), 9.15 to 11 a.m., Diseases of Children. At Glasgow Maternity and Women's Hospital: Daily (except Sat.), 3.30 to 5 p.m., Sat., 10 to 11.30 a.m., Clinical Obstetrics. At Glasgow Royal Maternity and Samaritan Hospital for Women: Mon., Wed., and Fri., 9.15 to 11 a.m., Clinical Gynaecology. At Ear, Nose, and Throat Hospital: Tues. and Thurs., 7.15 p.m., Diseases of the Ear, Nose, and Throat.

MANCHESTER: ANCOATS HOSPITAL.—Thurs., 4.15 p.m., Sprains and Minor Injuries of Joints, Muscles, and Tendons

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Tues., 4.15 p.m., The After-Treatment of Surgical Cases. Fri., 4.15 p.m., General Survey of Cancer Incidence.

British Medical Association.

OFFICES, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1.

Departments.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ADVERTISEMENTS (Financial Secretary and Business Manager. Telegrams: Articulate Westcent, London).
MEDICAL SECRETARY (Telegrams: Medisecra Westcent, London).
EDITOR, *British Medical Journal* (Telegrams: Aitiology Westcent, London).
Telephone numbers of British Medical Association and British Medical Journal, Museum 9861, 9862, 9863, and 9864 (internal exchange, four lines).

SCOTTISH MEDICAL SECRETARY: 6, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh. (Telegrams: Associate, Edinburgh. Tel.: 4361 Central.)
IRISH MEDICAL SECRETARY: 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin. (Telegrams: Bacillus, Dublin. Tel.: 4737 Dublin.)

Diary of the Association.

SEPTEMBER.

24 Fri. Kent Branch: Quarterly Meeting at Lyndhurst Hotel, Folkestone. Dr. G T. Birdwood on Ante-natal Midwifery in General Practice, 3 p.m.
25 Sat. Banff, Moray, and Nairn Division: Autumn Meeting, Gordon Richmond Hotel, Spey Bay, at noon.
28 Tues. West Suffolk Division: West Suffolk Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds. Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bt., on Changes in the Clinical Aspects of Diseases, 3 p.m. Tea will be provided.
29 Wed. London: Finance Committee, 2.30 p.m.
Croydon Division: Croydon General Hospital, 3.30 p.m.
Winchester Division: War Memorial Hospital, Andover, 3 p.m.
30 Thurs. London: Special Pathological Committee, 2.30 p.m.
Edinburgh: Scottish Committee.

OCTOBER.

1 Fri. London: Puerperal Morbidity and Mortality Committee, 2.30 p.m.
2 Sat. Yorkshire Branch: Annual Meeting, Station Hotel, York. Presidential Address by Dr. P. Macdonald, 2.30 p.m.
5 Tues. South-West Essex Division: Woodford Jubilee Hospital, Woodford Green. Dr. F. W. Price on Recent Advances in the Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment of Heart Disease, 3.30 p.m.
West Bromwich Division: District Hospital, West Bromwich. Dr. Clyde McKenzie (Smethwick) on Ultra-Violet Rays, 3 p.m.
6 Wed. Reigate Division: Annual Dinner, White Hart Hotel, Reigate. Mr. Percy Sargent on the Management of Patients with Brain Tumours, 7 p.m.
7 Thurs. Dumfries and Galloway Division: County Buildings, Dumfries. Address by Dr. J. R. Drever, Scottish Medical Secretary, on A Hospital Policy for Scotland, 3 p.m. Tea will be provided.
Wakefield, Pontefract, and Castleford Division: Bull Restaurant, Westgate, Wakefield. B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. R. M. Bronte on Some Notes on Forensic Pathology.
12 Tues. St. Pancras Division: B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square. Sir Thomas Horder, Bt., on the Aims and Methods of Health Education, 9 p.m.
13 Wed. London: **Council**, 10 a.m.
19 Tues. South-West Essex Division: Walthamstow Hospital. Mr. Whitchurch Howell on Sciatica So-called, 3.30 p.m.
21 Thurs. London: Conference of Representatives of Local Medical and Panel Committees at B.M.A House, Tavistock Square, W.C.1, 10 a.m.
South-Western Branch, Exeter. B.M.A. Lecture by Mr. C. A. R. Nitch on Urogenital Tuberculosis.
23 Sat. Harrogate Division: B.M.A Lecture by Professor F. Craven Moore on Flatulent Dyspepsia.
29 Fri. Northern Counties of Scotland Branch: Inverness. B.M.A. Lecture by Dr. S. Cameron.

NOVEMBER.

2 Tues. South-West Essex Division: Livingstone College, Knott's Green, Leyton. Dr. Langdon Brown on Organotherapy in General Practice, 3.30 p.m.
10 Wed. Reigate Division: Clinical Meeting, East Surrey Hospital, 4.30 p.m.
13 Thurs. Wakefield, Pontefract, and Castleford Division: Bull Restaurant, Westgate, Wakefield. Dr. A. E. Pearson on Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases.

DECEMBER.

7 Tues. South-West Essex Division: Wesleyan Schoolrooms, High Road, Leyton. Dr. A. E. Gow on Infections of the Urinary Tract, 3.30 p.m.
14 Tues. Reigate Division: East Surrey Hospital. Dr. H. W. Barber on the Treatment of Some Common Diseases of the Skin, 8.45 p.m.
16 Thurs. Wakefield, Pontefract, and Castleford Division: Bull Restaurant, Westgate, Wakefield. Mr. H. Lee on Acute Diseases of the Eye.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcement of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 9s., which sum should be forwarded with the notice not later than the first post on Tuesday morning, in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

MARRIAGES.

PRIDE—BLAIR.—At Glasgow, on September 14th, by the Rev. F. C. Anderson, M.A., Alan Pride, M.D., Croydon, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. A. Pride, Dundee, to Agnes Baird (Nan), Tarbolton.

THOMAS—TAYLOR.—At the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, on September 8th, Alan Kenneth Thomas, M.B., M.R.C.S., to Portia Kathleen Taylor, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S.

DEATH.

BUTTERY.—On September 13th, at 319, Hagley Road, Birmingham, Dr. G. B. Buttery, Medical Officer of Health of Oldbury.

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taken to utilise in the preparation of the new British Pharmacopœia experience which has been gained as regards economy in prescribing by the operation of the drug traffic under the National Health Insurance Act.

The Committee therefore recommends:—

(Recommendation V.) That the Conference is of opinion that the attention of the Committee set up by the Privy Council for the purpose of revising the British Pharmacopœia should be drawn to the existence of valuable data in regard to economy in prescribing which has resulted from prescribing under the National Health Insurance Acts.

Association Notices.

BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: ST. PANCRAS DIVISION.—The first meeting of the session 1926 27 will be held at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, October 12th, at the British Medical Association House, Tavistock Square, W.C., when Sir Thomas Horder, Bt., K.C.V.O., physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, will open a discussion with an address on the Aims and Methods of Health Education. Sir Humphry Rolleston, Bt., K.C.B. (Regius Professor of Physic, University of Cambridge), has kindly consented to preside over the meeting. All medical men and women are invited to attend. Admission on presentation of visiting card. Light refreshments will be served at five minutes to nine o'clock.

BIRMINGHAM BRANCH: WEST BROMWICH DIVISION.—The fourth regular meeting for 1926 of the West Bromwich Division will be held at the District Hospital, West Bromwich, on Tuesday, October 5th, at 3 p.m. After transaction of Divisional business Dr. Clyde McKenzie of Smethwick will read a paper on ultra-violet rays and give a demonstration.

BORDER COUNTIES BRANCH: DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY DIVISION.—The postponed meeting of the Division will be held in the County Buildings, Dumfries (the use of which has been kindly granted by the Dumfriesshire County Council), on Thursday, October 7th, at 3 p.m., when Dr. J. R. Drever, the Scottish Medical Secretary and a member of the Hospital Services (Scotland) Committee, will deliver an address on a hospital policy for Scotland. In view of the importance of the subject it is hoped that all interested will attend and take part in any subsequent discussion. Dr. Murray B. Steuart, Kirkcudbright, will preside. Tea will be provided.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE (WESTERN) BRANCH.—A meeting of the Cape of Good Hope (Western) Branch will be held on Friday, October 29th, at 8 p.m. Papers—Dr. A. Simpson Wells: Miscarriage; Professor E. C. Crichton: Lingering Labour.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH: BOURNEMOUTH DIVISION.—A meeting of the Bournemouth Division will be held in St. Peter's Hall, Bournemouth, on Tuesday, October 12th, at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 4. Agenda: Report of Executive Committee as to the scale of minimum commencing salaries for public health medical officers, and recommendation that the Division adopt a resolution under its Ethical Rules; report of representatives to Annual Representative Meeting at Nottingham, 1926.

DORSET AND WEST HANTS BRANCH: WEST DORSET DIVISION.—A meeting of the West Dorset Division will be held at the County Hospital, Dorchester, on Thursday, October 7th, at 8 p.m. Dr. C. J. Marsh, the Divisional representative, will give an account of the Annual Representative Meeting. Dr. G. G. Morrice will read a paper on paraesthesia. Cases will be shown by the staff.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: CHELSEA DIVISION.—A meeting of the Division will be held on Wednesday, October 6th, at 4.30 p.m., in the Fulham Town Hall, when Dr. Maurice Davidson will give an address on pneumothorax in diseases of the chest, and Dr. Fairfield will present a report on the Annual General Meeting at Nottingham.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: LEWISHAM DIVISION.—A meeting of the Lewisham Division will be held at the Town Hall, Catford, S.E.6, on Tuesday, October 19th, at 8.45 p.m., when Lieutenant Commander Charles Thomson will occupy the chair. Dr. Lewis Yealland will give an address on epilepsy and hysterical fits.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: SOUTH-WEST ESSEX DIVISION.—A meeting of the South-West Essex Division will be held at Woodford Jubilee Hospital, Woodford Green, on Tuesday, October 5th, at 3.30 p.m. Agenda: Election of Executive Committee member; report of Insurance Acts Committee, 1925-26; to be followed by a lecture on recent advances in the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of heart disease by Dr. F. W. Price. Tea at 3.15 p.m.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND BRANCH.—A meeting of the Northern Counties of Scotland Branch will be held at Inverness on Friday, October 29th, when a British Medical Association Lecture will be delivered by Dr. S. Cameron.

OXFORD AND READING BRANCH: OXFORD DIVISION.—A meeting of the Oxford Division will be held on October 27th, when Dr. Douglas McAlpine will read a paper on disseminated sclerosis, with special reference to etiology and treatment (preliminary notice).

SOUTHERN BRANCH: PORTSMOUTH DIVISION.—The opening meeting of the winter session of the Portsmouth Division will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Southsea, on Thursday, October 14th, at 9.30 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by supper at 9 sharp. Following the ordinary business an address will be given by Sir Bernard Spilsbury. As a large attendance is expected, members who intend to be present are asked to notify the honorary secretary, Dr. H. H. Warren, Devonia, Goldsmith Avenue, Southsea, on or before Monday, October 11th, so that necessary arrangements may be made.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH: SWANSEA DIVISION.—The following programme of meetings has been arranged:

Oct. 14th. Annual dinner of the Division at the Hotel Metropole, Swansea.
Oct. 28th. Paper.
Nov. 11th. General clinical meeting.
Nov. 25th. Discussion on Goitre, to be opened by Dr. A. C. Begg (Medical); Mr. C. L. Isaac, F.R.C.S. (Surgical); Dr. A. F. S. Sladden (Pathological). Each opener limited to fifteen minutes.
Dec. 9th. Proposed joint meeting with pharmacists, to be followed by a supper.

The meetings will take place at the General Hospital, Swansea, at 8.15 p.m. Members desirous of reading papers or of showing cases and specimens are requested to communicate with the honorary secretaries not later than seven days before the date of meeting.

SOUTH-WESTERN BRANCH.—A meeting of the South-Western Branch will be held at Exeter on Thursday, October 21st, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. C. A. R. Nitch, M.S., F.R.C.S., surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, will give a British Medical Association Lecture on urogenital tuberculosis.

SUSSEX BRANCH: HASTINGS DIVISION.—A meeting of the Hastings Division will be held at the Eversfield Hotel, on Tuesday, October 5th, at 8.15 p.m. Agenda: Lectures by Dr. T. D. Overend and Mr. Ligat, F.R.C.S., on the importance of pyelography in the differential diagnosis of renal disease, illustrated by pyelograms and lantern slides. Report by Dr. Conwy Morgan on the Annual Representative Meeting at Nottingham.

SURREY BRANCH: REIGATE DIVISION.—The annual dinner of the Reigate Division will be held on Wednesday, October 6th, at 7 p.m. After dinner Mr. Percy Sargent, C.M.G., D.S.O., surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, will read a paper on the management of patients with brain tumours.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.—The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Branch will be held at the Station Hotel, York, to-day (October 2nd), at 2 p.m., when Dr. Peter Macdonald will give his presidential address, entitled "Instinct and functioning in health and disease," to be followed by Dr. O. J. Wilson on "Reminiscences of fifty years of country practice." After the meeting the York Division will entertain at 3.30 p.m. the other members of the Branch present in York, together with friends who accompany them and friends whom members of the Division care to bring to tea at the Station Hotel. Two parties will be made up, one of which will be conducted over the Merchant Adventurers' Hall and one over the Minster. At 5 o'clock the parties will rejoin at Monk Bar for the purpose of viewing the recent Roman excavations.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH: WAKEFIELD, PONTEFRACT, AND CASTLEFORD DIVISION.—A meeting of the Wakefield, Pontefract, and Castleford Division will be held at the Bull Restaurant, Westgate, Wakefield, on Thursday, October 7th. A British Medical Association Lecture will be given by Dr. R. M. Brontë, pathologist to the Home Office, entitled "Some notes on forensic pathology."

Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Surgeon Captain P. T. Nicholls to the *President*, additional for three months' post-graduate course.

Surgeon Commander A. R. Fisher to the *President*, additional for three months' post-graduate course (amended orders).

Surgeon Lieutenant Commanders L. R. Warburton, M.B.E., and J. Kirker have been promoted to the rank of Surgeon Commander.

Surgeon Lieutenant Commander J. T. Wylie to the *Columbine* for R.N. Hospital, South Queensferry (amended orders).

C. G. Rippin has entered as Surgeon Lieutenant and appointed to the *Victory* for course of instruction at R.N. Hospital, Haslar.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Colonel H. E. M. Douglas, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., appointed Commandant and Director of Studies at Royal Army Medical College.

Colonel E. T. Inkson, V.C., D.S.O., late R.A.M.C., retires on retired pay.

Lieut.-Colonel C. C. Cumming, from R.A.M.C., to be Colonel, vice Colonel E. T. Inkson, V.C., D.S.O., to retired pay.

Lieutenant A. C. H. Gray, O.B.E., appointed Professor at Royal Army Medical College.

Major H. Harding to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Lieut.-Colonel C. C. Cumming, C.B., promoted.

The following Captains to be Majors: R. A. Austin, M.C., A. L. Robb, G. D. Harding, J. R. Hayman, R. H. Leigh, M.C. (prov.), G. G. B. Holroyde, M.C., E. C. Linton, J. R. N. Warburton, M.C. (prov., and remains seconded), J. H. G. Hunter (prov.), W. Bird (prov.), A. C. Jebb, J. B. Minch, T. I. Dunn, D.S.O., M.C., C. Popham, A. J. O'B. O'Hanlon, W. G. Shakespeare (prov.), O. C. Link (prov.), E. E. Holden (prov.), W. Campbell, W. H. Cornelius, R. G. Martyn (prov.), N. Cameron (prov.), C. F. Burton, M.C., S. D. Robertson, R. H. Hodges, M.C. (prov.).

ROYAL AIR FORCE MEDICAL SERVICE.

Flying Officer D. Magrath is transferred to the Reserve, Class D.2.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Lieut.-Colonel C. F. Wanhill, having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers.

Major L. T. Challenor, late R.A.M.C., T.A., to be Major.

MILITIA.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Major R. Magill, D.S.O., retires on reaching the age limit.

COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Dr. F. V. Hill appointed Medical Officer, West African Medical Staff (Sierra Leone). Dr. F. E. Montague appointed Government Medical Officer, Fiji. Dr. M. B. Hay promoted Senior Sanitary Officer, Gold Coast.

British Medical Association.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF INSURANCE ACTS COMMITTEE, 1925-26.*

Confidential Nature of Medical Records.

(Continuation of para. 61.)

119. Since the issue of the Annual Report of the Committee new facts have come to light in regard to the case mentioned in paragraph 59 of the Committee's Report which throw a different light on this matter. Arising out of its representations to the Ministry asking for a return to the window envelope system, failing provision being made for greater secrecy in connection with the passage of record cards through official channels, the Committee has been informed by the Ministry that, but for letters of complaint received from the practitioner concerned, the cards in question would not have been looked at by the staff of the Insurance Committee, and the alleged improper entries would never have been noticed. It appears that one of the cards was actually enclosed with one of the practitioner's letters. Having regard to all the circumstances, therefore, the Insurance Acts Committee felt that there was no case upon which to continue to press for a return to the window envelope system, and the Committee has informed the Ministry that it does not now desire to press for this change. The Committee therefore asks for the permission of the Conference to withdraw Recommendation I of its Report.

Investigation of Alleged Excessive Prescribing.

(Continuation of para. 84.)

120. Panel Committees have already received from the Ministry of Health a circular letter (I.C.L. 602) outlining the new procedure which is to be followed in connection with the investigation of alleged excessive prescribing. This circular appears to set forth the position fully and clearly and the Insurance Acts Committee has no criticism to make upon it. There appear, however, to be one or two considerations to which Panel Committees should have regard in connection with the new procedure, and to which particular attention is now directed.

121. It will be seen that Panel Committees have the option of making themselves responsible for the preliminary investigation or of leaving it to the Regional Medical Officer. The Insurance Acts Committee is of opinion, however, that Panel Committees will be well advised not to undertake the responsibility for the preliminary investigation in view of the possibility that, by so doing, a Committee would prejudice its position if at a later stage it was called upon to adjudicate in any charges of alleged excessive prescribing.

122. In connection with the arrangements providing for the attendance of one of the members of the Panel Committee at the interview between the Regional Medical Officer and the practitioner whose prescribing is the subject of investigation, the Insurance Acts Committee desires to suggest that if advantage is taken of this arrangement there are two courses open to the Panel Committee to adopt:—

(a) to advise the practitioner concerned that unless he intimates to the contrary a member of the Panel Committee will attend; or

(b) advise the practitioner that a member of the Panel Committee will attend if he so desires.

Any member of the Panel Committee attending the preliminary interview between the Regional Medical Officer and the practitioner would not afterwards be able to take part in any proceedings of the Panel Committee in connection with that case. Notwithstanding this, however, the Committee feels that the balance of advantage would be on the side of a member of the Panel Committee being present at the preliminary interview, and withdrawing subsequently from any judicial proceedings that might arise.

Dispensing Capitation Fee.

(Continuation of para. 91.)

123. As reported in paragraph 91 of the Committee's Report, an investigation has been made by the Ministry in areas agreed upon with the Committee of the cost of medicines ordered by doctors who both prescribe and dispense for their patients. The Ministry has now submitted the result of this investigation which appears to show that during 1925 the average cost of drugs and appliances supplied by chemists to insured persons on the lists of the practitioners concerned was 28·8d. A reasoned statement is being forwarded to the Ministry in support of the claim for an increase of the dispensing capitation fee to 2s. 6d. as from January 1st, 1926.

* The Report of the Insurance Acts Committee, 1925-26, was published in the Supplement of August 14th, 1926, pp. 114-127.

Ophthalmic Benefit.

(Continuation of para. 101.)

124. The Committee's attention has been drawn to the action of the Prudential Approved Society in asking practitioners, who had issued a recommendation to insured members of that Society to the effect that they should consult an ophthalmic surgeon, for a statement as to what condition of the patient's eyes had rendered such a course necessary. Insurance practitioners are, of course, under no obligation to give their reasons for the issue of a certificate or recommendation to one of their patients, but in the interests of the insured patients concerned the Insurance Acts Committee considers that a reply might be sent to the Prudential Approved Society, and recommends that such reply should take the following form:—

"In answer to your letter of the.....enquiring as to the condition of the eyes which rendered it necessary for me to recommend.....to be examined by an ophthalmic surgeon, I have to state that the recommendation which I gave is a considered opinion after an examination of the patient. I hope that the Society will see that my recommendation is carried out."

Fees for Anæsthetists in connection with Dental Treatment.

(Continuation of para. 105.)

125. Since the issue of the Committee's Report the Committee has received a copy of the report of Referees set up by the Ministry to consider a case concerning question of range of service which affected the question of dental treatment. The Referees' decision was briefly to the effect that in the case in question the services were within the scope of the insurance practitioner's agreement, and, generally, the Referees did not accept the view that dental service was outside the scope of an insurance practitioner's agreement.

126. The Committee does not consider that the abovementioned case is a suitable one upon which to contest the point as to whether dental treatment is part of an insurance practitioner's duty because the dental condition was associated with a surgical condition. The Committee does not accept the general ruling of the Referees. It is still awaiting a suitable case upon which to obtain a definite decision as to whether dental benefit is or is not within the scope of an insurance practitioner's agreement.

Medical Officers of Institutions on Medical List.

127. The Committee's attention has been drawn to a ruling of the Ministry of Health to the effect that a whole-time resident medical officer of an institution whose name is on the Medical List for the purpose of treating insured members of the staff of such institution only, was not exempt from the ordinary liability to give emergency treatment in cases of accident or other emergency in connection with insured persons whose names were on the lists of other practitioners. The present Regulations would appear to allow of this interpretation being placed upon the duties of the medical officer of an institution who is on the Medical List, but the Committee is of opinion that it is not in accordance with the intention with which the emergency provision was introduced. The Committee is therefore asking the Ministry to make the necessary alteration so as to provide that any medical officers of institutions who are on the Medical List with limited lists may be exempt from the liability for emergency treatment.

Temporary Residents.

128. The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the fact that the sole criterion of "temporary resident" is defined in Article 17 of the Medical Benefit Regulations, namely, the intention of the insured person at the time of his removal from the area in which arrangements have been made for his treatment to be absent for a period of less than three months. Notwithstanding the fact that the foregoing is evidently the legal definition of a temporary resident, such was not the intention of the provision at the time the Regulation was passed. The Committee feel sure that Panel Committees throughout the country will agree with the Committee's view that a temporary resident should cease to be a temporary resident upon the termination of the period of three months from the date at which he removed from the area in which arrangements had been made for his treatment, even though his intention at the time of his removal was to be absent for a period of less than three months. The Committee is, therefore, making representation to the Ministry with a view to the alteration of the existing Regulation upon this matter, so as to make it quite clear that a temporary resident ceases to be a temporary resident at the end of three months from the date of removal into the new area.

Revision of British Pharmacopœia.

129. Panel Committees are doubtless aware that steps are being taken to revise the British Pharmacopœia, and the Insurance Acts Committee considers that advantage might be